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A

LETTER OF THANKS

ADDRESSED BY THE

LONDON CORRESPONDING SOCIETY,

TO

PHILLIP FRANCIS, Esq. M. P.

FOR HIS

ABLE SPEECH in PARLIAMENT,

On the 10th of April, 1793.

UPON THE

STOCKBRIDGE ELECTION BILL;

TOGETHER WITH

HIS ANSWER.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SOCIETY.

1793.

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A

LETTER OF THANKS

BY THE

London Correſponding Society,

To PHILIP FRANCIS, Eſq. M. P.

SIR,

THE Committee of *Delegates* of the *London Correſponding Society*, having peruſed with conſiderable pleaſure your truly Patriotic Speech, of the 10*th* inſtant, in favour of a *Radical Reform in the Repreſentation of the People*; think it incumbent on them, as friends to Reform on that broad Baſis, for which you have ſo ably contended, to return you their ſincereſt thanks, and, to expreſs their obligations for your ſupport of a cauſe to which, their every exertion has long been devoted. United as we are upon the firmeſt and moſt Patriotic Principles, and

and with the pureſt of all poſſible intentions, the Good of our Country; it gives us the moſt heart-felt ſatisfaction, to ſee that thoſe Principles and thoſe Intentions are not confined to ourſelves, but that there yet exiſts in the BRITISH SENATE a PATRIOT, who dares ſpeak truth in the cauſe of his Country, and plead for the People in the face of Corruption.

Too long has the Cauſe of the People languiſhed; Influence, Intereſt, or Prejudice have precluded Knowledge from the Senate; or if not precluded nearly overpowered. The People have ſeen with Sorrow their Happineſs diſregarded, and their Rights undefended: The Oppoſition of Political Warfare has been the effect of Party, and the exertion of ability had intereſt for its ſtimulus.

Rouſed from its Torpor, the Nation has at laſt begun TO THINK FOR ITSELF. Syſtems of Communication have been formed, and Mediums deviſed to collect the Public Voice.—— Mediums independant of Influence, or Corruption: ſuch is our Society; and from that Society you, Sir, are requeſted to accept the Thanks of an obliged Body of Men, which knows equally how to value its Rights, and eſteem the Supporters of them.

We

We have but to Wiſh that from Exertions ſo able, ſo diſintereſted as Your's, the Cauſe of the People may be *impartially* debated in Parliament; and we truſt when that is the caſe, the diſtinction of Party will ceaſe, and a Parliamentary Reform take place upon the *General Ground* of equal Right.

Should our Hopes in this Reſpect prove abortive, it is impoſſible to ſay where may end that ſpirit of enquiry; which has gone forth among a People, who have not forgot that they are entitled to Freedom, and who cannot tamely ſee themſelves plundered of their *Rights*.

We are, Sir, with ſincere Reſpect

Your highly obliged and very humble Servants,

For the Committee of

The London Correſponding Society

M. MARGAROT, CHAIRMAN.

T. HARDY, SECRETARY.

April 21ſt, 1793.

PHILLIP FRANCIS ESQ.
St. James's Square.

GEN.

St. James's Square, April, 22d, 1793.

GENTLEMEN,

I RECEIVED with great Pleaſure the Favour of your Letter, and acknowledge it with many Thanks, which I beg you will expreſs for me to the Committee of Delegates of your Society, and to the Society at large.

With reſpect to a Parliamentary Reform, the utmoſt that can be done by a few Individuals in the Houſe of Commons, and all that can be expected from them is, to take every favorable occaſion to agitate the Queſtion, and to bring the ſubject as often as they can into public view and diſcuſſion.

If the People of this Country in general, were as hearty and diligent as your Society in ſupporting the meaſure by Declarations and Petitions; I ſhould have little doubt of its ſucceſs. Without that Support, Succeſs is impoſſible.—On my Part, you may be ſure that every thing in my power ſhall be done to obtain it.

I am,
Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient
Humble Servant,
P. FRANCIS.

To the Chairman and Secretary of the Committee of Delegates of the London Correſponding Society.